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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6930

INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE 0163

RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 0039

RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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STATE FOR EUR/SCE, PM, NEA/I

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/23/2017 TAGS: <u>PREL MARR MOPS IZ MK</u>

SUBJECT: MACEDONIA REMAINS COMMITTED TO IRAQ DEPLOYMENTS

REF: A. STATE 4865 •B. SKOPJE 13

Classified By: P/E CHIEF SHUBLER, REASONS 1.4 (B) & (D).

(S) As ref B notes, Macedonia's leadership is committed to staying the course in Iraq in 2008 and beyond, as long as the U.S. remains engaged in Iraq and indicates Macedonian support is needed. Ref B addresses the questions posed in ref A tasking. In addition, MFA contacts have indicated to us that Macedonia would be interested in benefiting as a third-party from a U.S.-Iraq Defense Cooperation Agreement, as described in ref A. MILOVANOVIC